

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 494

Recognizing the exemplary service of the soldiers of the 30th Infantry Division
(Old Hickory) of the United States Army during World War II.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 2, 2009

Mr. KISSELL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Armed Services

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the exemplary service of the soldiers of the 30th
Infantry Division (Old Hickory) of the United States
Army during World War II.

Whereas the 30th Infantry Division of the United States
Army was first activated in October 1917 and originally
consisted of National Guard units from North Carolina,
South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee;

Whereas the 30th Infantry Division was nicknamed Old
Hickory in honor of General and President Andrew Jack-
son;

Whereas, when the 30th Infantry Division was reorganized at
Fort Jackson in 1941 for service in World War II, the
division included two North Carolina National Guard
regiments and one regiment from Tennessee;

Whereas, during World War II, the 30th Infantry Division participated in the Normandy campaign, June 6 through July 24, 1944, the advance across Northern France, July 25 through September 14, 1944, the invasion of the German Rhineland, September 15, 1944, through March 21, 1945, the defense of the Ardennes-Alsace, December 16, 1944, through January 25, 1945, and the final defeat of Germany, March 22 through May 11, 1945;

Whereas the 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion was attached to the 30th Division throughout its campaign in Europe;

Whereas the 30th Infantry Division played a key role in the breakout of the Allied forces from Normandy at St. Lo and the subsequent advance across Northern France;

Whereas the 30th Infantry Division is remembered for its role in the defense of Mortain and St. Barthelmy, France, and Hill 317 against a German counterattack in August 1944, actions for which four units of the division and two companies of the 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion were awarded a Presidential Unit Citation;

Whereas the 30th Infantry Division also played a key role stopping the German advance in the Battle of the Bulge and recaptured Malmedy and Stavelot and its vital bridge over the Ambleve River;

Whereas, in the report prepared for General Dwight D. Eisenhower rating the American combat units that fought in the European Theater, the Army's official historian, S.L.A. Marshall, picked the 30th Division as the finest infantry division to fight in Europe, writing that "It is the combined judgments of the approximately 35 historical officers who worked on the records and in the field that the 30th merited this distinction. It was our finding

that the 30th was outstanding in three operations and we could consistently recommend it for citation on any of these occasions. It was further found that it had in no single instance performed discredibly or weakly and in no single operation had it carried less than its share of the burden or looked bad when compared to the forces on its flanks. We were especially impressed with the fact that it consistently achieved results without undue wastage of its men.”;

Whereas, in recognition of its exemplary service during World War II, the 30th Infantry Division was awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation, the Meritorious Unit Citation, and the French Croix de Guerre; and

Whereas the proud fighting tradition of the 30th Infantry Division is perpetuated by the 30th Infantry Brigade, North Carolina Army National Guard: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives recog-
 2 nizes the exemplary service of the soldiers of the 30th In-
 3 fantry Division of the United States Army during World
 4 War II.

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